

Asian/Pacific Islander Tobacco Use Statistics

ADULTS

Tobacco Use among English Speaking Adults

- Our most recent survey data showed that about 11.2% of Asian/Pacific Islander adults smoke cigarettes. When further separated, about 7.3% Asian and 25.8% Pacific Islander adults smoke cigarettes.¹
 - Percent of Asian/Pacific Islander adults who smoke cigarettes by sub-groups.² (Rates of other Asian/Pacific Islander heritages were not included due to limitations of data):
 - 7.9% Chinese
 - 14.9% Japanese
 - 9.3% Korean
 - 14.5% Filipino
 - 6.0% Asian Indian
- IMPORTANT: Studies have shown that smoking rates are dramatically higher among non-English speaking men in certain Asian/Pacific Islander populations. The rates included above do not reflect that disparity.

Quit Line

- 345 people who identified themselves as Asian/Pacific Islander called the Quit Line within the past year.³

YOUTH

Current Cigarette Smoking

- Our most recent survey data showed:⁴
 - 6th grade: 1.2% Asians/Pacific Islanders, and 2.0% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
 - 8th grade: 4.5% Asians/Pacific Islanders, and 7.8% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
 - 10th grade: 10.0% Asians/Pacific Islanders, and 13.0% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
 - 12th grade: 19.2% Asians/Pacific Islanders, and 19.7% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.

PREGNANT WOMEN

Smoking During Pregnancy

- About 3.0% of pregnant Asian/Pacific Islander women smoke during pregnancy, compared to 10.2% statewide.⁵
- About 260 infants are born each year to Asian/Pacific Islander mothers who smoke during pregnancy.⁶

Source: WA State Department of Health, Tobacco Prevention and Control
Assessment and Evaluation

08/21/06

* data not reported because less than two school districts participated at required rate.

** data not reported because less than 40% grade-level participation of eligible schools.

¹ Data are from the 2005 Department of Health Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) among English speakers only. A 'current smoker' reports having smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and also responds "every day" or "some days" to the question "Do you smoke cigarettes now?" Among English speakers only, this estimate has a $\pm 3.4\%$ margin of error – this means that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is most likely somewhere in this range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage. The margin of error for the Asian adult estimate is ($\pm 2.5\%$) and ($\pm 11.9\%$) for the Pacific Islander estimate.

² The margins of error for the sub-group estimates are: Chinese ($\pm 5.2\%$), Japanese ($\pm 8.3\%$), Korean ($\pm 9.1\%$), Filipino ($\pm 6.9\%$) and Asian Indian ($\pm 5.8\%$) (Note: Historic survey data out of King County, inclusive to language spoken demonstrated significantly higher smoking rates among non-English speaking men of Asian/Pacific Islander populations. More specifically, these higher rates were seen among Korean and Vietnamese men.).

³ Data include counts of tobacco users, health care provider, and other callers seeking information from the Washington State Tobacco Quit Line between July 01, 2005 and June 31, 2006 who identified themselves as Asian/Pacific Islander.

⁴ Data for Asians/Pacific Islanders were collected from youth who participated in the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) in Fall 2004. The margins of error for estimates for Asians/Pacific Islanders are: 6th grade ($\pm 1.0\%$), 8th grade ($\pm 2.0\%$), 10th grade ($\pm 3.1\%$), and 12th grade ($\pm 3.3\%$). This means that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is somewhere in this range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage.

Data for Washington were collected as part of a statewide sample of youth for the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) in Fall 2004. The margins of error for estimates are: 6th grade ($\pm 0.4\%$), 8th grade ($\pm 1.0\%$), 10th grade ($\pm 1.4\%$), and 12th grade ($\pm 2.2\%$).

⁵ Data are from 2004 Washington State Birth Certificates. The margin of error for Asian/Pacific Islander is ($\pm 0.4\%$); the margin of error for Washington State is ($\pm 0.2\%$). Women who indicate that they smoke at all during pregnancy are classified as smokers. Health risk behaviors like smoking during pregnancy may be underreported due to growing social unacceptability of unhealthy behaviors during pregnancy.

⁶ The number of infants born to Asian/Pacific Islander mothers who smoke during pregnancy are calculated using an average of the births to Asian/Pacific Islander mothers who report smoking on the Birth Certificate from 2001-2004. The estimate is rounded to the nearest factor of ten.